Patent 51281-00010

Appl. No.: 10/627,322

Art Unit: 1753

Reply to Office Action of 12/18/2006

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (WITHDRAWN) A thin film photovoltaic cell formed from at least one semiconductor layer, wherein said at least one semiconductor layer includes a copper-indium-gallium-diselenide film having a band gap ranging from 1.1-1.45 eV, and said thin film photovoltaic cell has a conversion efficiency of at least 9.0%, an open circuit voltage of at least 0.4 V, a current of at least 30 mA/cm², and a fill factor of at least 58%.
- (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for preparing a copper-indium-galliumdiselenide film comprising:

providing a substrate;

providing a buffered electro-deposition bath <u>having a pH ranging from approximately 2-3 and</u> containing ions of copper, indium, gallium, and selenide; and placing said substrate in said buffered electro-deposition bath to form a semiconductor layer having copper, indium, gallium, and selenide.

- (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 2 wherein said substrate is selected from the group consisting of glass, amorphous glass, and soda-lime silica glass.
- (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 3 further including applying a molybdenum layer to said substrate.
- (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 4 further including adjusting said semiconductor layer composition by physical vapor deposition.
- (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 4 further including 5-wherein adjusting-said-semiconductor layer-composition further includes adding indium to said semiconductor layer by physical vapor deposition.

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7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for preparing a copper-indium-galliumdiselenide film comprising:

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providing a substrate:

providing a buffered electro-deposition bath having a pH ranging from approximately 2-3 and containing ions of copper, indium, gallium, and selenide:

placing said substrate in said buffered electro-deposition bath to form a semiconductor layer having copper, indium, gallium, and selenide; and

adjusting said semiconductor laver composition by depositing indium on said semiconductor layer by physical vapor deposition.

- 8 (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 7 wherein said substrate is selected from the group consisting of glass, amorphous glass, and soda-lime silica glass.
- 9. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 8 further including applying a molybdenum layer to said substrate.
- 10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of fabricating a thin film photovoltaic device, comprising:
  - (a) providing a substrate:
- (b) applying a molybdenum layer to said substrate by radio frequency sputtering;
- (c) providing a buffered electro-deposition bath having a pH ranging from approximately 2-3 and containing ions of copper, indium, gallium, and selenide;
- (d) placing said substrate in said buffered electro-deposition bath to form a semiconductor layer having copper, indium, gallium, and selenide:
- (e) adjusting said semiconductor layer composition by depositing indium by physical vapor deposition:
- (f) depositing a negative-type n-type semiconductor layer by electrodeposition to chemical bath deposition on said semiconductor layer, wherein said negative-type n-type semiconductor layer is comprised of cadmium sulfide:
- (g) depositing a first zinc oxide layer by radio frequency sputtering to said negative-type n-type semiconductor layer;

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(h) depositing an aluminum oxide doped zinc oxide layer by radio frequency sputtering to said first zinc oxide layer;

- (i) applying a Nickel/Aluminum electrical contact layer to said aluminum oxide doped zinc oxide layer; and
- (j) depositing a <u>an</u> anti-reflective coating composed of magnesium fluoride onto said electrical contact layer.
- (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 10 wherein said substrate is selected from the group consisting of glass, amorphous glass, and soda-lime silica glass.
- (NEW) The method according to claim 2 wherein said buffered electrodeposition bath contains a solution of potassium biphthalate and sulphamic acid.
- (NEW) The method according to claim 7 wherein said buffered electrodeposition bath contains a solution of potassium biphthalate and sulphamic acid.
- (New) The method according to claim 10 wherein said buffered electrodeposition bath contains a solution of potassium biphthalate and sulphamic acid.
- (New) A bath for forming a copper-indium-gallium-diselenide film comprising:
- an aqueous solution containing copper ions, indium ions, gallium ions and selenium ions; and
  - a buffer solution having a pH ranging from approximately 2-3.
- (NEW) The bath of claim 15 wherein said buffer solution comprises potassium biphthalate and sulphamic acid.
- 17. (New) The bath of claim 16 further including supporting electrolytes selected from LiCl. NaCl and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.